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DRAFT

VISION 2020 ENVIRONMENT TASK GROUP

SPY POND COMMITTEE

June 9, 2009 MEETING

Town Hall Annex, First Floor

In attendance: Brad and Ann Barber, Bill Eykamp, Jacob Friis, Joey Glushko, Jane Howard, Jack Hurd, Elizabeth Karpati, Bob & Harriet Noyes, Steve Ricci, Stroker Rogovin, Dick Terry.

Facilitator: Jacob Friis Minutes: Elizabeth Karpati

Next meetings: 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays, September 8, October 13, November 10, December 8.

Town Hall Annex, First Floor Conference Room.

- Minutes of the April meeting were approved.
- Weed treatment contract to be awarded June 18. Only a reduced treatment is practical now, re-treatment next year will be needed. Steve will write to the Town Manager expressing our disappointment that despite repeated reminders from us the RFP went out too late to make a full treatment practical. [Treatment was done June 30.]
- Trails Day along the Rt. 2 path on May 9 was successful. Participants included nine children and several new people. Much of the work done was trash pickup since MassHighway did not clean up the highway side of the fence before the work day. It also didn't mow the grass before the work day but did so later in the month. It did, however, remove the bulging tree root and repave a short piece of the path near the Lake Street end recently.
- · Stroker will draft a letter asking MassHighway to follow through on planting some trees on the highway side of the fence where too many trees were removed by the "T.Rex" machine.
- · Sandbar: Mike Rademacher is applying for a grant under a state program which isn't funded now but the Town wants to go on record as asking for the money.
- Phragmites: Brad Barber is planning to get the patch on his property treated and is proposing to organize treatment for the whole pond two big areas at Kelwyn Manor Park and Elizabeth Island and numerous small shoreline patches. The big areas would probably have to be done in stages. The time for treatment is in the fall, about September-October. Cleared areas would have to be planted by the owners with something else, e.g. cattails or bulrushes, before the phragmites comes back. A group of interested committee members will meet to pursue this further. Perhaps a pilot project to clear several patches could be done this fall as a demonstration for other property owners.
- Rowing team: The Recreation Department has a meeting scheduled for tomorrow on the complaints about the coaches' motorboats (noise, waves, fear of gasoline leaks). The Town has a 10 hp, 10 mph limit but no prohibition against gasoline motors. The committee agreed that we want to encourage recreational uses such as rowing as long as users behave responsibly (Bob Noyes noted that the teams seem to be doing so). Steve will communicate this to the Recreation Department.